
Presently I own and operate Hagen’s Arena Equitation school and stables at the Mallory farm. I also show and train riders and horses. Since the opening of the school in 1973 I have graduated over three hundred students.

I am the mother of four children, namely: Gloria, Cynthia, Mark Allen and Melanie Joy.

Horses have been my way of life since my ex-husband and I bought the first high grade Quarter horses into the valley in 1962. We were the first to establish a breeding program of this calibre with a top stallion that area people could also use to upgrade their stock.

Our accomplishments have been many, but I will list a few of the highlights.

We bred, campaigned and trained several top winners on the open and registered horse shows, traveling thousands of miles in the Midwest and Canada.

We organized the Junior Riding Drill team in 1961 of the Agassiz Riders Saddle Club teaching the youth drills and horsemanship. We organized and ran the first Great Midwest Horse Show with other co-workers, and today this is one of the largest shows in the Midwest.

We ran the first Rodeo Queen Competition in the area in 1964 along with the promotion of the Great Midwest Rodeos, sending the winner on to State Competition to vie for the trip to Miss Rodeo America Pageant.

I am a member of several local, regional, state and national horse organizations including membership in the Canadian Quarter Horse Association in Manitoba.

I was named and was honored as Horsewoman of the year in Arena Festivities at the Red River Valley Winter Shows in 1972.

HARRY HARM

Hans Heinrich Christian Harm was born in Dartmund, Germany. He came to Chicago for the World’s Fair and decided to look up a cousin in Argyle, Minnesota. While there he heard about a job in a clothing store in Crookston. During his stay there he met Edith Anna Boelker. They married and moved to East Grand Forks.

Here he was known as Harry Harm and worked at the Arneson Mercantile Company. Later he operated his own restaurant. During this period Company M of the U.S. Army was stationed here and ate all of their meals at his restaurant, to the joy of Mr. Harm’s two daughters. When Company M left the area, Harry presented a silver-handled cane to Harm on which was engraved, “from the boys of Company M.”

Harm also ran the Texaco filling station in town. While he was active in many organizations, he served the city most through holding the office of mayor for twelve terms.

During the flood of 1897, Harm’s family had to leave their home through an upstairs window with the aid of a rowboat. After that experience he built a home on what was considered the highest level land in the city. The house is now occupied by his grandson and his family.

Harry and Edith Harm had seven children: Minna, Harold, Carol, Evelyn, Roland, James, and William.

VIVIAN E. HARNEY

This is the story of the life of Vivian E. Harney: a wife, mother, grandmother, prominent business woman, and the first woman mayor of East Grand Forks.

Mrs. Harney was born of Elise and Theodore O. Propp on November 21, 1902. She lived in Echo, Minnesota with her parents and one sister, Mildred. When she was six months old, she and her family moved to Woodside, Minnesota, until she was two and a-half years old. At this time, they moved to Fer
tile, Minnesota.

In Fertile her father set up a general store. Two more girls were born to the Propp family. They were Doris and Theodora Propp, twins.

She got her first business experience by going with her father while he sold farm machinery. When she was in sixth grade, she was helping her father run his store. By the time she was in eighth grade, she was doing her father’s bookwork, using the Burrough Postage and Listing Machine — an innovation at that time. Mrs. Harney feels she owes much of her business career to her father for his faith in her and his letting her work in his store.

She graduated from high school in three years and was valedictorian of her class. After high school she went on to the Minneapolis Business School and graduated with a secretarial degree. She then returned home to help her father in his store.

In January of 1922 she came to East Grand Forks to work for F. C. Massie, Attorney-at-Law. She married Earl Harney, a conductor on the Northern Pacific Railway February 3, 1923. She had three children, Donald of Anaheim, California, Harold of Grand Forks, North Dakota, and Dorothy, Mrs. John R. Boe, Jr. of East Grand Forks, Minnesota. She also raised a stepson, Raymond Harney, who was killed on a bombing mission over Strutgort, Germany in World War II. Her husband passed away in 1956.

In 1928 Mrs. Harney took over the books of the Building and Loan Association of East Grand Forks. In 1933, when the Home Owner’s Loan Corporation act was passed, Mrs. Harney went to St. Paul, Minnesota and Chicago, Illinois, to meet representatives to determine whether it was advisable for the Building and Loan Association to convert to a Federal Association.

Through her efforts, the Building and Loan Association was converted to a Federal Savings Loan Association, and through her efforts the association grew from $110,316 at time of conversion to twenty-three million at the time of her retirement in 1971.

Mrs. Harney’s civic mindedness and leadership abilities are shown in her many activities through the years. The following is a resume of positions she has held: First President — Central High School P.T.A., East Grand Forks; President — Columbia Study Club; District Treasurer — Minnesota Federation of Women’s Clubs; Worthy Matron — Red River Chapter Order Eastern Star; District Instructor — Grand Chapter of Minnesota — Order of Eastern Star; Grand Representative of State of Maryland — Grand Chapter of Minnesota, Order of Eastern Star; President and Charter Member — Quota Club of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks (Club of Executive Women); Chapter Chairman — Area Chapter of American Red Cross; Member of Advisory Committee of Midwestern Area American Red Cross (22 states); First Woman elected to Board of Directors — East Grand Forks Chamber of Commerce; Member of the Upper Midwest Health Planning Committee; Secretary — Savings and Loan League of Minnesota; Various committees of the U.S. Savings and Loan League; Member of church council of United Lutheran Church of Grand Forks and Secretary and the President of the Church Council: First Woman to be President of United Lutheran